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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Charles R. Rapier, et al.	§	
		§	
Serial No.:	10/731,748	§	Group Art Unit: 1764
		§	
Filed:	December 9, 2003	§	Examiner: Thuan D. Dang
		§	
For:	Reactor and Process For	§	Confirmation No.: 4300
	Converting Alkanes to Alkenes	§	
		§	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED WITH REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Att'y Docket No. 1856-42300 (9719.0-02)  
Date: October 26, 2004

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Applicants submit this Preliminary Amendment in conjunction with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. Before considering the present application further on its merits, Applicants request that the following amendments be entered.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.